

To Whom it may concern,

I recently learned that the FCC is planning to introduce telephone privacy laws that will supercede Indiana's existing privacy state laws. It is my understanding that the proposed FCC laws will make it easier for companies and other unwanted predators to once again solicit me.

I want to tell you how well the Indiana law has been working for me and my thoughts on how the laws should be designed to protect my family and I. Before I signed up to be on the Indiana "No Call" list, I would receive an average of 5 to 10 unwanted solicitation calls per day. It was getting so bad that I found software on the Internet that would allow me to use my computer as an answering machine and help me screen and log all of the calls we received. The software allowed me to setup a black-list of phone numbers or caller-id information that could be screened and given an alternate greeting stating that we do not want solicitations. This works well, if we let the answering machine answer all calls, but reality is, if you're home, you tend to answer the phone yourself. It is really aggravating to be eating dinner or lying in bed when the phone rings and MCI or AT&T want me to switch long distance carriers or some bank I never heard of wants to loan me money to refinance my house. Many of these solicitors turn off their caller Id information so that you don't know who is calling you. It could be someone you know or it could be a solicitor. We just have to answer the phone to find out. It's aggravating!!!

Since I am able to keep about 6 months worth of caller-ID information of every call to my house, here's what I've noticed. Before I was on the Indiana "No Call" list, about 60% to 70% of all calls placed to my house were solicitations of some type. Usually identified as "unavailable" on the caller-id information. They almost never leave a message!!! They will continue to call until they actually talk to someone. And, even when you tell them no, they recycle and reschedule you with follow up calls for next week or next month, depending on the particular solicitor. I guess they want to make sure you really meant no when you said NO! After being placed on the "No Call" list, I have NO unwanted solicitations!!!! Not one!!! I love the Indiana laws!!! they are exactly what people want. Of the logs I currently have since being placed on the list, every caller but two is someone I know. I happen to know that the two calls identified as "unavailable" where that way because I picked up the phone before the system could detect the caller ID information. They were calls from family. Did I say I love these Indiana laws?

Here's my 2 cents... Anything you do to lessen the application of the existing Indiana laws is going to hurt people. The FCC laws should set minimum privacy guidelines, but allow states to be creative and meet those minimum guidelines and extend them to decide what privacy means to

its own people. The Indiana laws are the way things should be. I like the effect it has had and so do the people I discuss this issue with. As far as I'm concerned, If I'm not sending a company money every month or have not contacting them myself for business related matters, they have no business calling me. I have to put up with solicitations every day on the TV, radio, bill boards, web sites, mail, work phones, and email. I don't want them on my phone! I've tried, but I can't stop those calls myself... you can and you must!

Please get your act together and realize that you cannot make one law that will satisfy everyone.  
Let states determine their privacy needs.

Thank You for allowing me to voice my comments,

Mark Gildner  
(574) 284-6415